REPORT

NATIVE PAPERS

Week ending the 21st March 1896.

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LIST OF NEWSPAPERS.

100 12 01 1696.

| No. | Names of Newspapers. | Place of publication. | Reported number of subscribers. | Dates of papers received and examined for the week. | REMARKS. |
|---------|---|-----------------------|--|--|--|
| | Benealt. | _ | | | |
| | Weekly. | CALCUTTA. | | | |
| 1 | "Banganivasi" | Calcutta | 5,000 | 15th March, 1896. | |
| 2 | "Bangavasi" | Ditto | 20,000 | 14th ditto. 18th ditto. | |
| 8 | | | •••• | | |
| 6 | "Hitaishi" | Ditto | About 4,000 | 17th ditto. | |
| 6 7 | "Kumari Patrika" "Mihir-o-Sudhakar" | Ditto | 2,500 | 14th ditto. | |
| .8 | "Sahachar" | Ditto Ditto | About 500 3,000 | 11th ditto. | |
| 10 | "Samay" | Ditto | 3,000 | 14th ditto. | |
| 11 | "Som Prakash" | Ditto | 800 | 16th ditto | |
| 1 | | | | | |
| | Daily. | | | | |
| 1 | "Banga Vidya Prakashika" "Dainik-o-Samachar Chan- | Ditto | 1 1,000 | 19th and 18th 4, 10th | |
| 2 | drika." | | | 12th and 15th to 18th March, 1895. | |
| 8 | "Samvad Prabhakar" | Ditto | | 13th, 16th, 18th March, 1896. | |
| : | "Samvad Purnachandrodaya" "Sulabh Dainik" | Ditto | Kead hy | | |
| 67 | "Suladu Dainik | | 3,000 | 13th, 16th and 18th and | |
| | Hindi. | | | 19th March, 1896. | |
| ě. | Weekly. | | | | |
| | "Bharat Mitra" | Ditto | 2,000 | 194 16-1 1000 | |
| 1 2 | "Hindi Bangavasi" | Ditto | 10,000 | 12th March, 1896. | |
| | "Uchit Vakta" | Ditto | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | Daily. | | | | |
| 1 | "Dainik Bharat Mitra" | Ditto | 5,000 | 11th and 18th March, | |
| | | | | 1896. | |
| | PRESIAN. | | The Control of the Co | | |
| | Weekly. | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| 1 | "Hublul Mateen" | Calcutta | | 4th March, 1896. | |
| | URDU. | | | | |
| | Wookly. | * | | | |
| Ú, | | | | | |
| 1 | "Darussaltanat and Urdu Guide." | | . 310 | 12th March, 1896. | |
| 2 | "General and Gauhariasfi" | Ditto | . 330 | 8th ditto. | |
| | Bengali. | | | | |
| | | BURDWAN DIVISION. | | | |
| | Fortnightly. | | | King the last the same of | |
| 1 | "Bankura Darpan" | Bankura | 450 | 16th March, 1896. | |
| . 5 | "Ulubaria Darpan" | IIInharia | 700 | 10m Match, 1000. | |
| | TT | | | | |
| | Weekly. | | | | |
| 1 | "Burdwan Sanjivani" . | Burdwan | . About 250 | 10th March, 1896. | |
| 2 | "Chinsura Vartavaha" | . Chinsura | . 650 | 15th ditto. | the state of the s |
| 341 (2) | "Darsak" | Ditto | 100000 | The state of the state of the | Lister to the second |
| 8 | Darsak | | | A STATE OF THE PARTY OF THE PAR | |

| No. | Names of Newspapers. | Place of publication. | Reported number of subscribers. | Dates of papers received and examined for the week. | Renause. |
|-----|--|------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|--|
| | Bengali. | | | | |
| | | PRESIDENCY DIVISION. | | 4 | |
| | Monthly. | Khulna | 350 | Second Liberty | |
| 1 | "Ghosar" | Kumis | | | and College |
| | Weekly. | | | | |
| 2 3 | "Murshidabad Hitaishi" "Murshidabad Pratinidhi" "Pratikar" | Murshidabad Berhampore Ditto | 826 200 603 | 11th March, 1896. 13th ditto. 13th ditto. | |
| | URIYA. | | | | |
| | Monthly. | ORISSA DIVISION. | | | |
| | | Cuttack | , 160 | | |
| 2 3 | "Brahma" | Ditto | | | 1949.07 |
| 3 | "Shikshabandhu" | Ditto Mayurbhunj | ***** | | Only six copies have |
| • | Utkaipraona | | | | been issued sine |
| | | | | 4 | the paper was re vived in January |
| | | | 9 | | 1894. Some 20 copies of each issu |
| | | | | | are said to have |
| | Weekly. | | | | been circulated, bu no subscribers have |
| | "Sambalpur Hitaishini" | Bamra in the Central | | | been registered. This paper is said to |
| 1 | | Provinces. | | | have some circula |
| 2 | "Samvad Vahika" | Balasore | 190 | | but the number of |
| | "Unya and Navasamvad" | Ditto | 309 | | subscribers coul |
| 3 | Onya and Navasamvad | Ditto | 300 | | not be ascertained. |
| 4 | "Utkal Dipika" | Cuttack | 480 | | |
| • | | | | | |
| | HINDI. | | | | |
| | Monthly. | PATNA DIVISION. | | | |
| | "Bihar Bandhu" | Bankipur | 500 | | |
| 1. | | Dankipur | | | |
| | Weekly. | | | | |
| 1 | "Aryavarta" | Dinapur | 1,000 | 14th March, 1896. | |
| | URDU. | | | | |
| | Weekly. | | 1 | | |
| 1 | "Akhbar-i-Al Punch" | Bankipur | 500 | 20th and 27th February, 1896. | |
| | "Com Donal" | | | | |
| | "Gaya Punch" | Gaya | 400 | 16th March, 1896. | |
| | Bungali. | RAJSHAHI DIVISION. | | | |
| | Weekly. "Bagura Darpan" | | | | |
| 2 | "Hindu Ranjika" | Boalia, Rajshahi | 100 | | |
| 3 | "Rangpur Dikprakash" | Walina Danaman | 1 100 | 12th ditto. | |
| | HINDI. | | | | |
| | Monthly. | | | | |
| 1 | "Darjeeling Mission ke Masil Samachar Patrika." | Darjeeling | 600 | | It is said that 55 |
| | Bengali. | | | | copies of the pape are printed eac |
| | Fortnightly. | DACCA DIVISION. | | | month. Out of thi |
| 1 | | Kaning Ravical | | | number 150 copie are distribute |
| | Weekly. | Mastpur, Darisai | 244 | | among the subscribers, and the res |
| | | | | | sold to the public a |
| 1 2 | "Charn Mihir"" "Dacca Prakash" | D | | | three pies per copy |
| 3 | "Saraswat Patra" | Do. | About 440 | | |
| 4 | "Vikrampur" | Lambaranaha D | 240 | | |

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| | ENGLISH AND BENGALI. | | | freezett. |
| | Weekly. | | tore VIII s | provision of the same of the same of |
| 1 | "Dacca Gazette" | Dacca | 500 | i zatodii "zassisia |
| | Bengali. | CHITTAGONG DIVISION. | | 6.7.70 |
| | Fortnightly. | 1 | | |
| 1 | "Tripura Prakash Weekly. | Comilla | 700 | 1st fortnight Falgun, 1302 (B-S.) |
| 1 | "Sansodhini" | Chittagong | 120 | |
| | BENGALI. | | | |
| | Fortnightly. | Assaw. | | |
| | | Sylhet | | |

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II.—Home Administration. (a)—Police.

THE Charu Mihir of the 10th March refers to a case of outrage committed by badmashes in Kanihari in the Mymen-outrage upon female modesty singh district, and complains that such outrages have become very frequent in that district. The

CHARU MINIR, Mar. 10th, 1896.

badmashes enter into the houses of villagers at dead of night, when everybody is asleep, and try to carry off young women. If resisted, they attack their opponents with offensive weapons and make good their escape with their victims. No man, any female member of whose family has attracted the notice of these badmashes, can avoid being molested by them. Many people are consequently obliged to purchase their friendship in order to save their women from dishonour. In past times, when the law was not so strict and the police was not so powerful in the country, when the panchayets and the chaukidars were not the sole guardians of the life, property and honour of the villagers, and were not strictly enjoined to report to the police every occurrence in the village, the injured parties took the law into their own hands and punished anybody who dishonoured their women. Where they failed to do so, the villagers in a body, or, in the last instance, the zamindar of the village, punished the wrong doers. The punishment of such offenders on the spot had a wholesome effect on badmashes. But those times are gone. Under the operation of the strict criminal law which now prevails and which pretends to secure good government, whilst the people are, on the one hand, losing all power of self-defence, they do not, on the other, feel inclined to bring cases of outrage committed upon their females to the notice of the police or the law courts, because they know that in police enquiries the truth is not always elicited and offenders often escape detection. There is no wonder that, under such a state of things, outrage upon female modesty should increase in the country. But, if steps are not taken to check the growth of the crime in the Mymensingh district, anarchy will reign there in a short time.

2. The Bankura Darpan of the 16th March says that one Chandra Mohan
Pal of Bankura went to a relative's family and
was on his way back decoyed by a cooly recruiter
and sent to Assam. Chandra Mohan is somewhat crack-brained and has a young
wife at home, who is trying her best to rescue her husband, but in vain.

BANKURA DARPAN, Mar. 16th, 1896.

(b)—Working of the Courts.

3. The Tripura Prakash for the first fortnight of Falgun has heard various rumours about the cause of the delay in Suits in connection with the Nurnagar settlement in the Tippera district.

Tippera district. The cases were taken up on the Tippera district. The cases were taken up on the 2nd January, and the examination of witnesses was finished on the 1st February. But judgment has not yet been passed. As soon as the result of even one of these cases becomes known, it will be easy to settle all disputes in connection with the settlement either amicably or by suit. It is hoped that Mr. Cumming will shew the same calm judicial temper in passing judgment as

TRIPURA PRAKASH, First fortnight of Falgun.

4. The Hitavadi of the 13th March has not yet been able to learn anything about Government's decision in respect to the charges which it has published against the Sub-divisional Officer of Madaripur. It will not cease to annoy the authorities so long as a proper enquiry, public or private, is not made in the matter. As its charges against that officer can be proved to the letter, there should be no delay in instituting an enquiry.

he shewed in examining witnesses.

HITAVADI, Mar. 18th, 1896.

5. Mr. Webster, the Joint-Magistrate of Alipore, says the same paper, is a very courteous and popular officer, and the writer is therefore sorry to learn that he has fined Hari chaprasi Rs. 2 for his refusal to whip a criminal. It is a matter of regret that the civilised English Government should countenance whipping. But though it recognises whipping as a legitimate form of punishment, it does not require all chaprasis to execute sentences of

HITAVADI.

whipping in disregard of their religious scruples. Hari chaprasi, being a Hindu, looked upon the execution of a sentence of whipping as a degrading office, and he therefore refused to whip the criminal. He is not to blame for this. It is hoped that Mr. Webster will reconsider his order in the case.

HITAVADI, Mar. 18th, 1896. 6. The same paper is sorry to learn from the Tribune newspaper that the English mechanic and volunteer who forcibly kissed a native woman at the Lahore railway station has been let off with a fine of Rs. 8. English Judges and Magistrates have no idea of the light in which offences of this nature are regarded by the people of this country, and that is why they punish such offences so lightly. The unfortunate woman will have, in all probability, to hide her head in society for having been so insulted.

HITAVADI.

7. The same paper says that Nidhiram Uriya has submitted to the Lieutenant-Governor a petition supported by certain affidavits made before a Deputy Magistrate of Alipore, denying that the first ten stripes which were administered to him were laid on him lightly or perfunctorily, and praying that a public enquiry may be held in the matter. If His Honour declines to hold any fresh enquiry into the matter on the ground that the censure that has already been passed upon Mr. Fisher is enough, it will be open to Nidhiram to seek redress in a law Court

Nidhiram stole toddy and he has been very properly punished. But it is not right that he should be punished for his offence in an illegal manner. It is also a point for Government's consideration whether it is not a more serious offence for an educated, enlightened and respectable officer like Mr. Fisher to attempt a defence of an illegal act by a false excuse than it is for a low fellow like Nidhiram to steal toddy.

How, again, is one to reconcile Mr. Fisher's promotion to the Magistrateship of Burdwan with the strong censure which Government says it has passed

upon him?

It is said that when the order for Mr. Fisher's promotion was passed, it did not strike. His Honour that the Mr. Fisher who was being promoted was the same Mr. Fisher who was implicated in the whipping case, and that on coming to know of this afterwards, he has cancelled the order. It will soon be seen whether this is true or not. It is not impossible that a just, liberal and popular ruler like Sir Alexander Mackenzie should do so.

The writer learns from a trustworthy source that Babu Surendranath Banerjee will make Nidhiram's petition the subject of an interpellation in the Council. Everything in this connection will become known when Government replies to this interpellation. It is hoped that Sir Alexander Mackenzie will enhance the real prestige of British rule in this country by ordering a public enquiry into the matter. His Honour is giving evidence of such liberality and generosity that it is no wonder that men, women and children in Bengal should praise him.

BANKURA DARPAN, Mar. 16th, 1896, 8. The Bankura Darpan of the 16th March is sorry to see Mr. Geidt, Transfer of Mr. Geidt, District and Sessions Judge, Bankura, transferred to the 24-Parganas. Mr. Geidt has earned a reputation in the administration of both criminal and civil justice. All the parties in a case have been found to be satisfied with his decisions. Mr. Geidt seems to be resolved never to commit a wrong. His sole care is to do good to mankind. He is a pious man. A calm and dignified temper and perfect sincerity of manners are his characteristics. The Bankura people are sincerely sorry to part with him.

(d)—Education.

SAHACHAR, Mar, 11th, 1896. 9. The Sahachar of the 11th March contains an article entitled "A breach in the house of Saraswati (the goddess of learning)":—

Mother Saraswati, your sacred temple has been the scene of a serious quarrel. It is a quarrel among your own sons which has desecrated your temple. So far as we know, you observe no distinction of caste or creed; with you all your sons and votaries are of one caste and creed, and they ought, therefore, to

be on the most cordial terms with each other. But, alas, there has been a breach between your white sons and your black sons, and in this quarrel, instead of your black sons being all ranged against your white sons, some of them betrayed their cause, and, following the morality of those who commit suicide, went over to the side of your white sons. O mother, how could you watch this with equanimity? It is shameful to see your sons falling out among themselves, and it is still more shameful to see a division created in the ranks of your black sons. But for this division in the camp of the black men, the white men would not have gained a victory that day. Black and white have never yet combined. But all praise to the white men that they created this

division in the enemy's camp and carried the day.

The scene which took place at the Senate House at the meeting of the 7th March last was of a quite unusual nature, and nothing like it has occurred since the creation of the Calcutta University. Everybody is aware of the quarrel between Mr. A. M. Bose and Mr. Griffiths—a small difference which could have been easily made up. But, for some reason or other, Sir Alfred Croft, the present Vice Chancellor, made a mountain of a mole-hill. His wrath shook the University to its foundations and seemed to threaten its very existence. Sir Alexander Mackenzie, that true well-wisher of Bengal, however, saw the necessity of interference. He saw that unless the course of events was arrested, it would lead to something very serious. Preserver of the people that he is, he settled the dispute with a hint. The earth seemed cooled down. The expected outbreak between the Devatas and the Asuras in the Senate seemed averted. But the Devatas, though outwardly appeased, cherished a smouldering fire in their hearts. The attempts of even that god-like man thus failed to establish real harmony. There would have been a real reconciliation if treachery had not been actively at work in the ranks of the native members of the Senate. We said more than once that Government made a mistake by appointing the head of the Education Department as the Vice-Chancellor of the University. The Director of Public Instruction being the head of the University, no member of the Senate who is also a member of the Education Service can make a free use of his vote on any question. Besides, Sir Alfred Croft may be an exceedingly able and intelligent man, but it must be admitted that he is wanting in that large-heartedness and sympathy with natives which characterised his predecessors, Messrs. Atkinson, Woodrow and Sutcliffe. If Sir Alfred had possessed those qualities, he would not certainly have got up such a serious matter after the dispute had been settled. The last meeting of the Faculty of Arts was marked by proceedings which had never been witnessed before. And Sir Alfred Croft was at the bottom of all that. The most stupid person could see why a busy man like Sir James Westland, who can never find time to attend the meetings of the Senate, was present at the last meeting of the Faculty of Arts, and was not only present but also insulted the native members by putting an improper question to the President. The European members present at the meeting were one and all in an exceedingly excited mood, so much so, indeed, that it would have been best to adjourn the meeting to some other day. But they had succeeded in creating a breach in the native camp, and they gained a victory.

Treachery among the native members led to the exclusion of Ananda Mohan, Asutosh and Kali Charan from the Syndicate, not at all to their own injury, but certainly to the injury of the University. Mahendralal has had a narrow escape, but he will not be able to act with independence without the assistance of Asutosh and others. It was these members of the Syndicate who brought the University to its present state of efficiency, and the native members of the Senate who voted against their re-election acted as their country's enemies. Eighty-eight members were present at the meeting, and of these not more than forty were Europeans. So, the Europeans would not have gained a victory but for the help they received from native members anxious to secure official favour. The blame for the exclusion of members like Kali Charan, Asutosh and Ananda Mohan rests therefore entirely with the native

members.

The new members of the Syndicate are all able men, worthy of public respect. But the question is, will they be able to devote their time and energy to the work of the University as Mahendralal, Asutosh, Kali Charan and Ananda Mohan did? It is clear that the Registrar will henceforward do all the real work of the University in the name of the Syndicate, and the University will be reduced to a mere department of the Government. That will not be a state of things to be desired. It cannot be said that Asutosh and his native co-adjutors in the Syndicate never made mistakes. But with all their faults, Mahendra Lal, Asutosh, Kali Charan and Ananda Mohan rendered their invaluable services to the University without grudge, and few men have the public spirit to do so.

In conclusion, we advise the European members to forget race animosity in the management of the University, and the native members to learn unity from the European members. We also humbly request Sir Alfred Croft, after this deplorable affair, to withdraw his connection with the University.

PRATIKAR, Mar. 18th, 1896. 10. The Pratikar of the 13th March says that the Murshidabad District

Appointment to a Sub-Inspector. Board has invited applications, preferably from

Musalman candidates, for the post of a Sub-Inspector of Schools which has fallen vacant. Government

may show partiality to the Musalmans; but a District Board, which is not exactly a part of the Government, ought to look upon Hindus and Musalmans with equal fovour. No objection will be made if among equally qualified Hindu and Musalman candidates the choice falls upon a Musalman candidate in preference to the Hindu candidates. But it will be showing culpable partiality to the Muhammadans to appoint a Musalman in preference to better qualified Hindu candidates. Will not the rule requiring a Sub-Inspector to be a graduate of three years' standing in the education line be enforced in the present instance?

Sanjivani, Mar. 14th, 1896. 11. Sir James Westland, observes the Sanjivani of the 14th March, is the Finance Member of the Government of India.

Sir James Westland in the But he, too, was drawn into the Griffiths affair.

His onerous official duties, and especially the budget,

could not keep him a way from the last meeting of the Faculty of Arts. Such was the combination among European officials to keep natives out of the Syndicate! When the votes of the members were being taken, Sir James Westland suddenly lost his temper and cast reflections on the character of the Fellows by insinuating that voting by ballot might lead to the adoption of dishonest practices. Mr. Justice Banerjee strongly protested against this insinuation, and said that he would withdraw from the meeting if the objectionable remarks of the Finance Member were not withdrawn. Sir James Westland was thus made to withdraw his remarks. It is a pity that an official of Sir James Westland's position should in this way lose his head over a controversy.

DACCA PRAKASH, Mar. 15th, 1896. Wanted an Additional Deputy authorities to the necessity of appointing an addiInspector of Schools in the Dacca district.

Let a great injustice to Dacca that with 4,802 schools it should have only one Deputy Inspector, whilst Faridpur has one such officer for 1,487 schools and Burdwan has two for only 1,450 schools.

For want of proper inspection, the schools in the Dacca district are not

Dainie-o-Samachar Chandrika, Mar. 15th, 1896. 13. The Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika of the 15th March has the follow-

We do not know what Mataji means. She is teaching Sanskrit to Hindu girls—a feat which was never before attempted. Hindu women should be orally taught by their parents, husbands, husband's parents, priests and spiritual guides. The shastras do not permit Hindu girls to go to any school—Sanskrit, Bengali or English. Has Mataji a different body of shastras from that which is universally acknowledged? And have all the Hindu girls who have been taught in her school reclaimed their sinful husbands, and added to the happiness of their families merely by virtue of their education? Such things may be nice to read in a report and to hear from the mouth of a Lieutenant-Governor, but we do not admit their truth. Indeed, we have lost our wits in the midst of the fuss which has been made, and have been sorry to see Mataji mix herself up in it. A meeting in the Senate House, attended by the Lieutenant-Governor and

the elite of the community, a prize distribution got up with grandeur, a gathering of Hindu girls, reading of slokas, and Mataji in the midst of all this these may be good demonstrations according to the shastras as Mataji interprets them, but not as they are interpreted by others. The shastras cannot sanction or approve that in which there is so much of outward show and grandeur, so much display of the rajasik and some display of even the tamasik nature of man; for they are concerned only with what ennobles the mind and purifies the soul. Whatever may be Mataji's views in this matter, we do not expect any good to result from her labours. We are only sorry to find her making a fuss and mixing herself up in it.

14. The Banganivasi of the 15th March writes as follows:

In the course of his Bethune College Speech, The Bethune College. Sir Alexander Mackenzie said that the institution had been originally established for the education of Hindu girls of respectable families, and had now developed into a College in which Bengali young women were being educated. The reader will now see that the present students of the institution are not necessarily Hindus and girls of tender age. We have been pleased to hear these words from the mouth of the Lieutenant-Governor, no matter whether they were uttered intentionally or not. As if in corroboration of his statement, His Honour also said that many Bengali ladies were earning their livelihood after having finished their education at the institution. Sir Alexander must be aware that the earning of their own livelihood by women is a thing repugnant to the Hindu religion. Consequently, it is not right that Brahmans or Kayasthas should send their daughters to be educated at an institution which teaches women to earn their own livelihood.

15. The Bankura Darpan of the 16th March complains that the Bankura Industrial School has been abolished. The District

Board has proposed to pay fifty rupees a month for the maintenance of the school, and a house has been built for it at a cost of hundred rupees raised by subscriptions. The school can be started the Government supplements the District Board's grant with a monthly grant of fifty rupees.

16. The Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika of the 17th March is glad to see the Bangiya Sahitya Parishad trying to have Bengali in the Calcutta Univer- Bengali introduced into the curriculum of the

Calcutta University. History and Geography, Science and Mathematics, all these subjects can be taught in Bengali and taught better than they can be in English. Bengali can safely be given a place not only in the Entrance, but also in the F. A. and B. A. Examinations. Some of the Members of the Senate are in favour of introducing Bengali into the curriculum of the University. But they wish to "hasten slowly," and would have Bengali introduced first into the curriculum of the Entrance Examination before giving it a place in the curriculum of the other examinations. There is no objection to this policy of caution. Bengali can be introduced into the curriculum of the F. A. and B. A. Examinations by requiring candidates to write essays in, or translate English passages into, Bengali. But Bengali may also be taught as a second language in the F. A. and B. A. classes, just as it is done in the Entrance class. There will be no want of good Bengali text-books in a country in which there are the Ramayan, the Mahabharat and the eighteen Puranas, in which there are poetical works like those of Kavikankan and Bharat What is true of Bengali is also true of Hindi and Urdu. There can be no gainsaying the fact that subjects like History, Geography and Mathematics can be more intelligibly taught in Bengali than in English. In no other country are they taught in a foreign language. It is not only impracticable but also undesirable to make the Indian people English in language. That is the worst of countries in which the mother tongue is not studied and improved. Some time ago, when the question of introducing Bengali into the curriculum of the Calcutta University was first raised, some members of the Senate urged that all subjects should be taught in English, so that all the Indian nationalities might be united through the instrumentality of the English language and the barriers of caste might be broken. Expressions like these are unnatural and foolish, and the Government knows this too well. It is a great relief, however, to see that arguments like the above were not urged at the last

BANGARIVASI, Mar. 15th, 1896.

BANKURA DARPAN, Mar. 16th, 1896.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR CHANDRIKA, Mar. 17th, 1896. meeting of the Senate, that common sense was not sacrificed to whim. Bengali should be encouraged anyhow. There can be no two opinions about the Sahitya Parishad's movement: the question of means can be easily settled.

TRIPURA PRAKASH, First fortnight of Falgun.

17. The Tripura Prakash for the first fortnight of Falgun says that the reduction of the salary of Babu Kailas Chandra The punishment of the head-Bhattacharyya, head-master of the Comilla Zilla master of the Comilla Zilla School, from Rs. 190 to Rs. 150, as a punishment School. for certain defalcations in the School Funds committed by the clerk, Hara Kumar Bhattacharyya, has been a measure a little too hard for him. Kailas Babu's fault, if he committed any, was that he placed too much trust in the clerk's probity, and did not exercise proper supervision over his work. It would have been therefore enough if he had been only warned this time. It is hoped that Sir Alfred Croft will reconsider his decision in regard to Kailas Babu.

(e)—Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI, Mar. 10th, 1896.

A correspondent of the Burdwan Sanjivani of the 10th March reports the prevalence of cholera and small-pox in Rani-Sanitation in Raniganj. ganj. Scarcity of water is keenly felt in the town and the surrounding villages. It seems to be almost hoping against hope to have filtered water in Raniganj through the help of the municipal railway. At any rate the Municipal Commissioners should not depend upon that distant and doubtful contingency and make more delay in digging tanks and wells in the town as well as in the villages. The construction of the Sastigarh tank in the town, the digging of which was begun by the municipality sometime ago, should be pushed on, and its area should be extended as: far as the municipal feeder road. The town roads, drains and privies should be kept clean, and disinfectants should be largely used for the propose of removing the obnoxious smells emitted by them. The municipal tanks should be carefully guarded, so that ignorant and low-class people may not contaminate their water.

DAINIK BHARAT MITRA, Mar. 11th, 1896.

The Dainik Bharat Mitra of the 11th March says that butchers and fishermen in Calcutta are in the habit of selling Sale of rotten meat and fish in rotten meat and fish in the bazars. The municipal authorities should see that the practice is stopped,

as it is one of the causes of cholera epidemics.

VIKRAMPUR, Mar. 12th, 1896.

the Dacca district.

20. The Vikrampur of the 12th March says that while water scarcity prevails in a severe form in Vikrampur in the Water scarcity in Vikrampur in Dacca district during the months of Falgun and Chaitra, without the District or Local Board doing

anything to relieve it, the water of the few shallow tanks which supply the villagers with drinking water is rendered foul by fishermen catching fish in them. The owners of the tanks can put a stop to this only by having recourse to the law, but that involves much trouble and expense. It is hoped, therefore, that the local police or Sub-divisional Officer will instruct the village chaukidars to see that the tanks are not fouled in this way.

SAMAY, Mar, 13th, 1896.

21. A correspondent of the Samay of the 13th March complains of the prevailing scarcity of water in Bengal. Summer Water scarcity in Bengal. has not yet set in, but scarcity of water is already The people themselves are in a large measure to blame for being keenly felt. this scarcity of water. In former times it was considered a pious act to dig tanks and wells. But now a days well-to-do people care more for luxury than for religion, and the only thing that they seem to value most besides their own enjoyment is a title. These men can be induced to dig tanks and wells only if the Government holds out to them prospects of titles on their spending money on such works of public utility. The Government too should come to the rescue of the people. It should have a well dug in every para in a village. It is to be expected that Sir Alexander Mackenzie's attention will be drawn to the prevailing water-scarcity in Bengal.

BANGAVABI, Mar. 14th, 1896.

22. There is, observes the Bangavasi of the 14th March, great scarcity of water prevailing in the country. There is a cry Water scarcity in Bengal. for water on all sides. In many villages there is not a drop of water to be had for love or money within three or four miles.

Tanks and wells and other reservoirs of water are all silted up, and the failure of rains this year has made matters worse. It is doubtful if any thought about this scarcity of water ever enters into the heads of those who think that the salvation of the country lies in the establishment of a primary school in every village. The Babu members of the District Boards are busily engaged in constructing railways and thereby facilitating communications, but they never stop to think that the bone and marrow of the country are being dried up, and that its substance is as good as gone. The degradation of the people will go on so long as they will not try to find out the true causes to which it is due and apply the proper remedy to the prevailing disease.

23. Correspondents of the same paper complain of scarcity of water in the mufassal. There is great scarcity of water in

Scarcity of water in the mufassal.

In Bainchi in the Hooghly district there are few
good tanks and wells, and those which exist have dried up. In Berhgram in
Burdwan the state of things is no better. There are many tanks, but their
water is contaminated. In Kankuria and the neighbouring villages in the
same district the sufferings of the people are very great. In Siti in the
24-Parganas district almost all the tanks and wells have dried and silted up.
Their water is muddy, contaminated and obnoxious. There is only one good
tank in the village, that of Babu Ramkali Mukharji, which is supplying the
whole village people with water

BANGAVASI, Mar. 14th, 1896.

(g)—Railways and communications, including canals and irrigation.

24. The Tripura Prakash, for the first fortnight of Falgun, says that one day when a gentleman, with his wife and a boy of the Chandpur station on the Assambengal Railway.

Assam-Bengal line, the railway staff demanded the child's fare, and on the gentleman protesting that the child was less than three years of age, snatched the baby from the mother's arms. Had it not been for the remonstrances of an overseer of Comilla, who happened to be present, the gentleman and his wife would have been subjected to greater ill-treatment. The Traffic Superintendent's attention is invited to the case.

TRIPURA PRAKASH, First fortnight of Falgun.

25. The Hitavadi of the 13th March has received various complaints against the Station-Master of Konnagar, on the East Indian Railway line, of which it will, for the present, publish only two. The first is that in contravention of the railway rules which require that the distant-signal should be lowered only when a train has left the immediately next station, he has that signal lowered as soon as a train leaves the Seoraphuli station, thereby obliging many passengers to hurry towards the station, under the impession that the train is near. The other complaint is that on the 7th March last he did not attend to the earnest appeal of some female passengers in the 11 o'clock up-train, who were to have got down at Bally, but could not do so, the doors being locked up, to open the doors. He did not attend to the matter even when a man drew his attention to it. If this is true, the authorities should take notice of the station-master's conduct.

HITAVADI, Mar. 18th, 1896.

26. Another correspondent of the same paper complains that the platform of Railway arrangements at the the Nalhati station is inconveniently low, and many female passengers, therefore, fall down in getting into or out of trains. Passengers bound for Azimganj who come by mail train No. 10, and passenger train No. 11, are taken together to Azimganj in Azimganj train No. 1 at 7-30 o'clock. The result is that the passengers who come by mail train No. 10 have to wait at Nalhati for three hours and twenty minutes. This inconvinience may be removed by starting the passenger train No. 11 a little later from Howrah, and by taking passengers coming by the above two trains in different local trains as they reach Nalhati.

HITAVADI.

27. A correspondent of the Sanjivani of the 14th March brings to the notice of the authorities a grievance of the passengers travelling by the Assam-Bihar and the Eastern Bengal State Railways. From November last the authorities of the Eastern Bengal State Railway have upset the arrangement by which the Darjeeling mail train

Sanjivani, Mar. 14th, 1896. was so timed to start from Sara Ghat that the passengers of the Assam mail train arrived at that place just in time to catch the Darjeeling mail. The new arrangement has caused great inconvenience only to third class and intermediate class passengers, the first and second class passengers being allowed to change the train at Parbatipur. It thus happens that the first and second class passengers reach Calcutta a few hours before the third and intermediate class passengers. And greater still is the trouble and inconvenience caused by the new arrangement to passengers booked for Jessore or any other place which is to be reached by one of the branch lines of the Eastern Bengal State Railway. Under the old arrangement it took a Rangpur passenger eighteen hours to reach Jessore. Under the new arrangement it will take him twelve hours more. This frequent shifting from one train to another and the delay in reaching their destination have also proved a source of great hardship, inconvenience and annoyance to female passengers. It is to be hoped, therefore, that this grievance of the Rangpur passengers will draw the attention of the railway authorities. The old arrangement should be restored, or all the Rangpur passengers bound for Calcutta should be allowed to change their train at Parbatipur and take the Darjeeling mail there instead of at Sara Ghat.

(h)—General.

HITAVADI, Mar. 18th, 1896. 28. A correspondent of the *Hitavadi* of the 13th March has the follow-The tours of Magistrates and ing suggestions to offer on the subject of the tours Sub-divisional Officers.

of Magistrates and Subdivisional Officers:—

(1) The maximum and minimum number of days during which a Subdivisional Officer is to be on tour should be definitely laid down. Before Sir Alexander Mackenzie's Tour Resolution, the maximum period during which a Magistrate was required to be on tour was four months and the minimum period months. But many Magistrates are found to exceed this mail mum, and no wonder; for, from a pecuniary point of view, tand are rather profitable to Magistrates than otherwise.

(2) Considering the little benefit that the places visited by Magista receive in return for the cost of these tours, in the shape of travelling and halting allowances, it seems desirable that only those places should, as a rule, be visited by a Subdivisional Officer which contain institutions worth inspecting, such as municipalities, hospitals, &c. It is generally the same places which are visited by Magistrates year after year. And it should be clear to all that the money which is wasted in visiting such places would be really well spent in improving them. Subdivisional Officers should, of course, visit places other than those in which there are municipalities, &c., if it be necessary to visit them. The recent Tour Resolution says that District Magistrates should fix for Sub-divisional Officers the places which they should visit. But the District Magistrates should be directed to fix the places on some such principle as the above; otherwise they will have nothing but the map before them to direct them in the choice of places. The avoiding of unimportant places will save litigants and their pleaders, mukhtars and witnesses a good deal of inconvenience, and the inhabitants of those places from the oppression which they have to suffer at present in connection with the supply of provisions. The charges against Mr. Heard of Deoghur and the prosecution of a zamindar by the Magistrate of Sassaram, for failure to supply provisions, show what oppression people have to suffer in this connection. In Bihar it is still a common practice with

(3) The recent Tour Resolution lays down that cases should not, as a rule, be tried in the mufassal. But certain cases there will always be which cannot be conveniently put off till the Magistrates return from tour. Applications for bail, cases of challaned offenders, and complaints, for instance, cannot be so

put off. To meet these cases, Government should rule that during the absence of the Sub-divisional officer on tour, the Sub-Deputy Collector, where there is one, or an Honorary Magistrate should be empowered to deal with such cases, his orders being confirmed, if necessary, by the Sub-divisional Officer.

29. Another correspondent of the same paper strongly protests against
Mr. Westmacott's proposal to transfer the head-

The proposed transfer of the head-quarters of the Satkhira sub-division.

Mr. Westmacott's proposal to transfer the head-quarters of the Satkhira sub-division from Satkhira to Patkel Ghata. The present head-quarters are too distant from the southern portion of the sub-

division, and to remove them still further north would be to add greatly to the inconvenience of the above portion of the subdivision. That portion is two days' journey from the present head-quarters, and it will be nearly eight days' journey from the proposed head-quarters. The transfer of the head-quarters will also be a source of loss to those pleaders and mukhtars who have erected pucka buildings there, in the confidence that the head-quarters would not be removed. The ground on which Mr. Westmacott proposes the removal of head-quarters is the bad sanitation of Satkhira, owing to the local khal being nearly silted up. The khal is indeed nearly silted up. But that defect may be removed by clearing it. During the last thirty years that the sub-division has been in existence, no Sub-divisional Officer has been known to complain of the insanitary condition of the place. If Government is bent upon transferring the head-quarters, it should amalgamate the Kaliganj and Asasuni thanas with the Basirhat sub-division.

30. The same paper wonders how the English Government itself would fare if it were subject to a paramount power as ready to find fault with its administration as it is

to find fault with the administration of the native princes. The English Government is imposing tax after tax, and is constantly incurring fresh debts, and yet it is unable to make the two ends meet. This year Government will make a new loan of four crores, which will have to be paid off with Indian money, which is, as it were, the very hearts' blood of the people. Yet Government will have to pay a larger sum this year in the shape of home charges. Is Government trying to prevent such increase of expenditure? Is not such financial difficulty one proof of maladministration?

31. The Sulabh Dainik of the 13th March has the following on the Secretary of State on the rights of the Government of India.

The Secretary of State on the he would not interfere with the privileges of the Government of India in the Jhalwar question:—

It is a matter of question whether the policy of "no interference," as enunciated by the Secretary of State, is calculated to bear good fruit. It cannot be gainsaid that the Governor-General is a human being, and, as such, is liable to the weakness inherent in human nature, namely, to err. Secretary of State, too, cannot be free from that weakness of humanity. being the case, it cannot be advisable or politic either that the Secretary of State should never interfere with the Governor-General in the exercise of his powers, or that the latter will blindly carry out the former's behests without stopping for a moment to consider their advisability or propriety. The Maharana of Jhalwar is deposed on the ground of incapacity to rule. But can good government be possible even in British India under a system by virtue of which the Governor-General is made a tool in the Secretary of State's hands, or is made absolutely his own master, not bound to render an account to anyone? The British Parliament justifies its existence only as being a political body, watching the conduct of the Executive. But the Secretary of State is going to deprive it of this political character, so far at least as India is concerned. The Secretary of State's reply gives us cause for apprehension for the following reasons:-

(1) The Governor-General is a man; so, too, is the Secretary of State.

The latter should exercise a salutary control over the former and should himself be controlled by Parliament. The Secretary of State, however, proposes to abolish these checks and counter checks.

HITAVADI, Mar. 18th, 1896.

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SULABH DAINIE, Mar. 18th, 1896. (2) The Governor-General is surrounded by advisers of the stamp of General Brackenbury and Sir Mortimer Durand. Even if he be a perfectly good man himself, he cannot but catch the contagion of his surroundings.

(3) There are Anglo-Indian papers like the Pioneer and the Englishman in this country, the highest end and aim of whose existence seems to be to abuse and malign the natives, to find fault with them, and urge the Government to do them harm. The Governor-General and his Council are not unfrequently guided by their advice.

(4) First class English statesmen seldom come out to this country as Governors-General. The sole care of most Governors-General is to make money by drawing a large salary. Lord Elgin has never been known to be a statesman of rank. But as Governor-General of India he has to do work, the transaction of which

requires great tact and consummate statesmanship.

We do not, therefore, hesitate to say that the Secretary of State has proved an enemy of the Indian people, if his utterances, referred to above, have been made in all seriousness. We have, however, no quarrel with him if he meant his reply to be only a courteous way of telling a thing. The fact is that we do not like the Governor-General to be made the absolute master of his own self, just as we do not like him to be a helpless tool in the Secretary of State's hands. What we want is that both the Governor-General and the Secretary of State, together with their advisers, should be always guided by justice and nothing but justice; that they should conscientiously do their duties.

'I he Secretary of State's reply has given the Indian people cause for apprehension, and he should re-assure the public mind by withdrawing the remarks he made in reply to Mr. Clark's question about the deposition of the Maharana

of Jhalwar.

32. The Mihir-o-Sudhakar of the 14th March writes as follows:-

Hindu opposition to the employment of Musalmans in the Government service. Our Hindu contemporaries believe that it is the Musalman newspapers which excite quarrels between Hindus and Musalmans. But they do not see that it is the Hindus who do their best to oppose

the employment of Musalmans in the Government service, and thereby act as their enemies. If a post in any Government office falls vacant, the Head Babubrings in some relation of his own as an applicant and induces the head of the office to give him the appointment. If by some chance a Muhammadan succeeds in getting an appointment, the Hindu clearks make the place too hot for him, and he has no alternative but to resign. We have heard that a Muhammadan youth, having once applied for a post to a Hindu head clerk, who was reputed to be a very kind and generous man, obtained from him the following reply:—

I have only Hindu clerks in my office; and they will be greatly inconvenienced in the matter of their tiffin and chillam if I take you in. Are not the Musalmans, then, justified in bringing their grievance to the notice of the authorities? As further magnanimity of the Hindu press, it need only be mentioned that the other day the Murshidabad Hitaishi newspaper took Mr. Eales, District Judge of Benares, to task for having appointed a Musalman sheristadar and three Musalman clerks in his office, and threatened him with a visition of Sir Antony MacDonnell's wrath. But why should Sir Antony interfere when the Judge has acted with impartiality by giving appointments to competent Musalmans?

33. The expenditure of the Government, observes the Sanjivani of the The proposed rupes loan.

14th March, is increasing by leaps and bounds. It has become well nigh impossible for it to make

its two ends meet. Taxation has reached its highest limit, and the people cannot be taxed any further. The only alternative left to the Government, therefore, is to borrow. This year the Government is going to borrow four crores of rupees in India. This means for the people a burden of fourteen lakhs of rupees a year in the shape of interest. Such is the financial condition of the Government, and yet it has partially repealed the duty on cotton goods, on the ground that its financial condition has materially improved. This is the way the country is being governed.

mar was the store since

MIHIR O-SUDHAKAR,

Mar. 14th, 1896,

SANJIVANI, Mar. 14th, 1896.

The same paper complains that the prospects of the Subordinate Excise Officers are very discouraging. An Excise Prospects of the subordinate

Sub-Inspector can never expect to draw a larger salary than seventy or eighty rupees a month.

excise officers. Time was when Sub-Deputy Collectors and Deputy Collectors were recruited from among the Excise Sub-Inspectors. But since the year 1890-91 Excise Sub-Inspectors have been deprived of this privilege. The prospects which the excise service then held out drew a large number of graduates to it, and many of them entered the service on a small pay in the hope of getting their position bettered in course of time. These men have now become thoroughly disheartened. Many of them have left the Excise Service. The Excise Department yields a large revenue; and this revenue is gradually increasing through the efforts of these hard-working Sub-Inspectors, whose industry and integrity are always praised. Mr. K. G. Gupta himself testifies to the fact that the Sub-Deputy Collectors and Deputy Collectors recruited from among Excise Sub-Inspectors have proved the most successful officers of their class. This being the case, is it not just and proper that the Government should hold out more encouraging prospects to this deserving class of public servants? The Government should either re-organise the Excise Service on the lines of the Police Service, or, as was formerly the case, largely recruit Sub-Deputy Collectors and Deputy Collectors from among Excise Sub-Inspectors. There is a large number of graduates in the Excise Service who are very well fitted to hold the posts of Sub-Deputy Collectors and Deputy Collectors. And they should be encouraged.

35. The same paper complains that the enquiry made by the Chief

Commissioner of Assam into the case of one Bidu A cooly case investigated by the Dasi, reported in a previous issue of that paper Assam Government. (see R. N. P. for week ending 2nd November

1895, paragraph 58), is not complete and satisfactory. Bidu Dasi was recruited as a tea-garden cooly, and sent to Assam. Her father petitioned the Commissioner of Dibrugarh as well as the Chief Commissioner of Assam, complaining that she had been fraudulently recruited, and should therefore be released. The Commissioner of Assam has thus replied to Bidu Dasi's father.

To-Babu Ishan Chandra Mandal, care of Post-Master, Lukshunahati, Rajshahi

WITH reference to his petition, dated 3rd November 1895, regarding the alleged fraudulent recruitment of his daughter, Bidu Dasi, Babu Ishan Chandra Mandal is informed that his complaint has been enquired into, and that it appears that his daughter came to the Chowkidinghi garden, in the district of Lakhimpur, of her own free will, and does not wish to return home. The half-anna postage stamp received with his petition is returned.

By order,

For Secretary to the Chief Commissioner, Assam.

This enquiry, observes the writer, is extremely unsatisfactory. In her letter to her father, Bidu Dasi mournfully complained that "even stocks and stones were moved to tears by her grief." "Take me back to you," she complained, "otherwise I shall, like the duck-weed in the pond, go drifting about." And yet the Chief Commissioner learns, from the inquiry which has been made, that she does not wish to return home: let the public say what this official inquiry is worth. Bidu is a married woman; her parents are still alive, and yet she is compelled to live as a slave in an Assam tea-garden. The present Home Member is a just and kind-hearted man. Is it too much to hope that his attention will be drawn to the sad case of Bidu Dasi?

36. The Mihir-o-Sudhakar of the 14th March says that everywhere in the Government's treatment of a world it is the custom with a conqueror to show prince of the Mysore family. proper respect to the vanquished ruler, and to assign proper pensions for his support. But the English rulers of India follow a very different practice in this respect. They are deposing this prince to-day and that prince to-morrrow, and are turning them into street beggars. Many descendants of the Mysore and Oudh families, for instance, have not been treated

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with proper kindness. The writer feels ashamed to mention the amount of pension which is given to Shahzada Muhammad Bukht of the Mysore family. The Shahzada was some time ago appointed as the Sub-Registrar of Chuadanga. But he resigned the appointment on account of the climate of the place not suiting him. After that he made many applications to Government for another post, but without success. He then applied for an increase of his pension. But this application, too, was attended with no better success. The prince should be given either a larger pension or some appointment, for he is in a miserable condition.

BANGATASI, Mar. 14th, 1896.

37. Referring to the proposed rupee loan of four crores, the Bangavasi of the 14th March does not understand how this proposal can come so soon after the partial repeal of The proposed loan. the cotton duty, on the ground that the financial condition of the Government was satisfactory this year. Is not this loan, moreover, required for the spread of railways in the country?

BANKURA DARPAN, Mar. 16th, 1896.

38. Referring to Mr. Buckland's appointment to the Commissionership of the Burdwan Division, the Bankura Darpan of Mr. Buckland as Commissioner the 16th March observes that his father was for a of the Burdwan Division. long time Commissioner of that Division and discharged his duties with great ability. The son, it is hoped, will follow in the wake of the father.

III.—LEGISLATIVE.

GENERAL AND GAUHARI ASPI, Mar. 8th, 1896.

Referring to the Muhammadan Pilgrims Protection Bill, the General and Gauhari Assi of the 8th March says that some The Muhammadan Pilgrims measure is wanted to check the dalals who rob Protection Bill. Mecca pilgrims of their money in Calcutta and other places in India. These dalals generally loiter about on railway platforms and in steamer ghats in search of prey, and when they come across one, they take him to a house which they hire for quartering pilgrims, and by various shifts rob him of all his funds.

BABUTA DARPAN, Mar. 13th, 1896.

40. The Banijya Darpan of the 13th March complains of fraudulent practices prevalent among native traders and Legislation against fraudulent dealers, and especially among those who import trade necessary. spices. The Government has passed the Merchandise Marks Act to prevent fraud in the marking of goods imported to this country from Europe, and it should take steps as early as possible to put down the fraudulent practices of the native merchants and traders. The particular fraud practised by native importers of spices, against which legislation is needed, is charging customers unfairly heavy tare rates. Such dishonest practices can be put down only if the Government passes a law regulating the weight and tare of all goods imported to this country.

BANGANIVASI, Mar. 15th, 1896,

41. The Banganivass of the 15th March has heard that the clause in the Jury Bill which proposed to empower Sessions The Jury Bill. Judges to question jurors, will be dropped, but a clause still more objectionable will be retained. Previous to the year 1873, the unanimous verdict of a jury was final, and neither the Sessions Judge nor the High Court had power to interfere with it. By virtue of the amendment made in the law in that year, however, a verdict was required to be referred to the High Court when the Sessions Judge differed from it, and that is the law still in force. The present Bill proposes to curtail still further the powers of jurors; and the proposal, it is said, has the approval of the majority of the Select Committee. But why should the powers of juriors be sought to be curtailed when, with the progress of education in the country, better men are being appointed, or, at all events, are available for appointment, as jurors? The writer wants an explicit answer to this question. He is an advocate of the jury system, because it is urgently needed in a country like India. But hedged round with such restrictions, it will be productive of little good. report of the Select Committee is anxiously awaited.

DAINIK-O-SANACHAR CHANDRIKA, Mar. 15th, 1896.

The passing of the Legal Practitioners Act Amendment Bill.

42. Both the official and non-official members of the Viceroy's Council, says the Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika of the 15th March, expressed themselves delighted at the passing of the Legal Practitioners Act Amendment Bill in its modified form. Such, indeed, must be the pleasure derived from listenbn's iono do dioculsell ing to the subjects' protest.

43. The Dacca Prakash of the 15th March contains the following observations on Babu Mohini Mohan Roy's Civil Civil Procedure Code

Procedure Code Amendment Bill: Amendment Bill.

(1) The taking of evidence by affidavit will undoubtedly be convenient in cases in which witnesses cannot be brought forward without difficulty. But even this procedure will cause unnecessary expense to the plaintiff, and that can be avoided in ex-parte suits by awarding a decree only on the affidavit or verification, which a plaintiff attaches to his plaint. The writer fails to see any necessity for additional affidavits in such cases.

(2) The writer fully approves of Mohini Babu's proposal to make the issue of attachment and sale proclamation simultaneous, in accordance with the

provisions of the Bengal Tenancy Act.

(3) The amendment of section 289 proposed in the Bill will be beneficial in its effect. But provision should be made for advertising all property to be sold in some non-official local newspaper written in the language of the district and selected by Government for this purpose. For a district in which there exists no such newspaper, all property should be advertised in some newspaper of a neighbouring district. Such advertisements will not be expensive, considering that large numbers of them are generally published at a time. Approximately, no advertisement will cost more than eight annas. The publication of advertisements in private newspapers, which have a large circulation will also benefit the legal heirs and creditors of the judgment-debtor, who would not otherwise get any notice of the sale. Advertisements should also be published in respect of property worth less than one hundred rupees.

(4) The writer approves of the new sections which have been added at

the end of the Bill.

The opening speech of the Lieutenant-Governor, observes the BANKURA DARPAN, Sir Alexander Mackenzie in the Bankura Darpan of the 16th March, at the first Bengal Legislative Council. meeting of the Bengal Legislative Council during the present session, was extremely welcome to the public, and breathed a spirit of sympathy with the people. The people seldom have the good fortune to hear so much plainspeaking from an official of the Lieutenant-Governor's position. The interpellations made in the Conncil were timely and useful, and the replies given to them showed a hopeful change in the official policy.

45. One Amarnath Mukharji, observes the Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika of The question about Mr. Windsor the 16th March, wrote in the Indian Mirror complaining that Mr. Windsor, Magistrate of Burdwan, in the Bengal Legislative Council. had whipped a native cartman on the Memari Road, making him bleed through the nose. The Hon'ble Babu Surendranath Banerjee raised the question in the Bengal Legislative Council. An explanation was demanded from Mr. Windsor, and he says that he does not remember to have whipped any person on the Memari Road. He may have raised his whip at a cartman, but it is impossible that he whipped him violently. The public ought to be satisfied when the Magistrate denies the charge brought against him. But the question is if this Mr. Windsor sometime ago whipped a gateman in Serampore; Mr. Cotton ought to have answered this question also. For if this Mr. Windsor be the Mr. Windsor of Serampore, the matter assumes a somewhat serious aspect, and his denial alone is not a satisfactory answer to the question.

The Hon'ble Babu Surendranath Banerji, observes the Dainik-o- DAINIE-O-SAMACHAR Samachar Chandrika of the 17th March, most fre-Interpellations in the Bengal quently interpellates the Government about official Legislative Council.

highhandedness. His interpollations often bear fruit, but he sometimes oversteps the bounds of moderation. The Englishman says that some of Mr. Banerji's interpellations, at the last meeting of the Legislative Council disturbed the Lieutenant-Governor's equanimity. Alexander Mackenzie is not the man to lose his temper, but Mr. Banerji shou!d, in future, be a little more careful and moderate in his interpellations. Before making an interpellation, a member should acquaint himself with all the available facts and figures concerning the case about which the interpellation is made. No official should be afforded the opportunity to give an explanation like the one given by Mr. Windsor in a recent case in which he was charged

DAGGA PRAKASK Mar. 15th, 1890

Mar. 16th, 1896.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR CHANDRIKA. Mar. 16th, 1896.

CHANDRIKA, Mar. 17th, 1996. with whipping a cartman on the Memari Road. No member should repeat his interpellation on one and the same subject. It is enough for a Magistrate or a Joint-Magistrate to be once rebuked for any error committed by him. The tragaries of civilians and other European officials are due more to errors of judgment than to any partiality for or love of wilful highhandedness or wanton oppression. During Sir Alexander Mackenzie's rule no official will be allowed to carry things with a high hand. No mountain should therefore be made of a molehill.

SULABH DAINIK, Mar. 18th, 1896. lative Council not to pester the Government with Interpellations in the Bengal Legislative Council.

Interpellations in the Bengal Interpellations about one and the same subject. Too much of a good thing is bad. At the last meeting of the Bengal Legislative Council, the Lieutenant-Governor had good grounds to be dissatisfied with the Hon'ble Babu Surendranath Banerji re-opening the question of the whipping case of Mr. Fisher. Nidhiram Uriya, the aggrieved person in the case, has not also done well in submitting an affidavit against Mr. Fisher. Why, moreover, should not Mr. Fisher be promoted, if he is entitled to promotion, simply because he committed an error of judgment? Honourable Members should be a little more careful and circumspect in making interpellations.

IV .- NATIVE STATES.

The Tripura Prakash for the first fortnight of Falgun writes as follows:—

TRIPURA PRAKASH, First fortnight of Falgun,

We will show how deeply the British Govern-Government's treatment of Zalim ment was indebted to the ancestors of Zalim Singh, the deposed Maharana of Jhalwar, and by what a solemn treaty it bound itself to maintain the dynasty on the Jhalwar throne. The Government of the present day may not care to remember the services which were rendered by the family to the British throne, and the present Viceroy may not care to uphold the promises which were made by one of his predecessors. But here is what Sir John Malcolm wrote about a Zalim Singh, an ancestor of the deposed Maharana, who rendered invaluable services to the British Government, when it was about the beginning of this century involved in an interminable warfare with Jaswant Rao Holkar and Daulat Rao Sindia. Sir John wrote:—"Zalim Singh has lost no opportunity of evincing the sincerity of his friendship to the British Government. In every effort to establish order in countries adjoining the territories of Katah, great benefit has always been derived from his aid. In the settlement of Sondwara, one of the most turbulent districts in Malwa, his troops, which co-operated with those of the British, acted with a forwardness that proved at once the disposition of their Prince and their own gallantry. During the contest in which the British were engaged sixteen years ago with Daulat Rao Sindia and Jaswant Rao Holkar, Zalim Singh acted most wisely." (Memoir of Central India, Vol. I, page 407.) And the following is quoted from the treaty which was concluded by the British Government with the ruler of Kata on the 20th February 1818:—"The contracting parties agree that the entire administration of the affairs of the principality shall be vested in Raj Rana Zalim Singh, and after him in his eldest son, Koomer Madhu Singh and his heirs in regular succession in perpetuity. The 20th February 1818. Signed C. T. Metcalfe." (Ibid, Vol. II, page 339.) Thus the treaty concluded, the services acknowledged, and the promises made, in February, 1818, have been violated, forgotten and trampled under foot in February 1896. What trust can be placed in such treaties and promises? And what, after this, are these Native States but mere views shown with the aid of the magic lantern? We knew beforehand how the deposed Maharana would fare under Mr. Crosthwaite, for we saw with our own eyes how, as Governor-General's Agent in Central India, he oppressed the Native Chiefs. Whatever Sir Lepel Griffin did he did publicly, but Mr. Crosthwaite is secretly undermining the Native States.

HIPAVADI, Mar. 13th, 1896. The Hitavadi of the 13th March writes as follows:—

The Jhalwar deposition.

The Maharana of Jhalwar does not yet know for what offence he has been deposed. The letter deposing him makes mention of no other charge except the general one of

administrative incapacity, and simply states that he has been deposed from an

Punishment from simple apprehension is a new thing, indeed! Who said that the Maharana was incompetent to rule? Did the subjects of the Maharana complain to the Government of India of his maladministration? If not, what moved Government to be so kind to them? The philanthropy which Government has shown by deposing the Maharana of Jhalwar for maladministration, though none of his subjects complained of it, is quite of a piece with the philanthropy which led it to reduce, at the instance of English mill-owners, the hours of labour in Indian mills. This is philanthropy with a vengeance!

There is little hope of the Maharana's ever regaining his throne. The Secretary of State has, as we anticipated, declined to interfere with the action of the Indian Government in this matter. The people of England cannot know of the grievances of the Indian people, and there is nobody to inform them of such grievances. The result is that India is ruled by brute force.

The fate of the Maharana of Jhalwar personally does not concern us here. What we are concerned with is the ultimate effect of the policy which Government has now adopted towards the native princes. An empire is firmly based only when it is founded upon the love, reverence and confidence of its subjects. But is the policy of Government tending to such a result in India? Look how the native princes are casting their eyes on all sides in fear—their hearts full of alarm and uneasiness. Who shall say that any native prince will not share the fate of the Maharana of Jhalwar if he shows the least independence? It goes without saying that to pursue such a policy towards the native princes, who are prepared to assist Government at the cost of their blood and treasure, is very wrong and cannot fail to do great harm.

50. The Samay of the 13th March has the following:-

The Secretary of State on the Jhalwar deposition.

In reply to Mr. Clark's question about the deposition of the Maharana of Jhalwar, Lord George Hamilton said that what the Government of India

had done in the matter was right and proper, and that he did not like to interfere with that Government in the exercise of its rights, and was prepared to support its action, although he had not seen the official papers concerning it. So it is seen that British administration in India is being conducted on excellent lines indeed! The Secretary of State will not interfere with the Governor-General in the exercise of his rights, the Governor-General will not interfere with the Foreign Secretary, in his turn, will not interfere with the Political Agent in his dealings with a Native State according to his light. It is in this way that Zalim Singh has been judged and deposed. But if the Secretary of State and the Governor-General are thus bent upon blindly defending the conduct of their subordinates, what is there to justify their independent existence? We cannot understand how a statesman of Lord George Hamilton's position could support the policy of the Government of India without even acquainting himself with the grounds on which it had deposed the Maharana of Jhalwar.

But is it true after all that it is not the policy of the Secretary of State to interfere with the Government of India in the exercise of its rights and privileges? Does not the truth lie the other way? What was done in the case of the cotton duty legislation? Did not the Secretary of State force the Government of India against its will to partially repeal the duty on cotton goods? But, then, in that case the political interests of Lord George Hamilton and his party were in question, whereas in the case of the Maharana of Jhalwar, the Secretary of State could parade his policy of neutrality without thereby causing himself and his party any harm or inconvenience. It is a great misfortune to the Indian people that such men should be at the head of the Government and rule over their destinies. It is they that have cast the Royal Proclamation to the winds, sacrificed justice, disregarded the law, and made treaties and agreements a dead-letter.

It is said that Maharana Zalim Singh incurred the displeasure of the Political Agent simply because he did not allow himself to be made a helpless tool in his hands. In the opinion of the public, Zalim Singh would have been

praised by the Government if he had left the administration of his State entirely in the Political Agent's hands, and reduced himself to a cipher. Under

BAMAY, Mar. 13th, 1896. British rule even the most insignificant subject of Her Gracious Majesty the Queen-Empress cannot be punished without a trial. But here is a native chief who was charged with a serious offence, and then punished undefended and untried. Lord Northbrook had Mulhar Rao Holkar tried by a commission, and Zalim Singh had precedent on his side when he prayed for a trial by a commission. By refusing to grant his prayer the Government has given his brother chiefs cause for discontent. It is strange that the Government which is so loud in praising the native chiefs when their help is required to defend the frontiers, should never stop for a moment to inquire how they fare under the guidance of the Political Agents who are placed in their courts. The policy of the Government has led to the formation of the impression in the mind of the native chiefs that their very existence is trembling in the balance, and a word uttered by a Political Agent can make or unmake them at any moment. This thought exercises them day and night, and it is, therefore, impossible for them to pay proper attention to the administration of their States.

The Morning Post has unearthed some official secrets in connection with the deposition of the Maharana. It appears that Zalim Singh incurred the displeasure of the Government by declining to subscribe to the Albert Victor Memorial Fund. It was from this time that the management of his finances was virtually taken off Zalim Singh's hands, and he was taken to task in season and out of season for indulging in by no means degrading and ruinous luxuries, which are never refused to other native chiefs. It is thus quite clear that with the Political Agent on his side, a native chief can safely commit wrongs without being taken to task for their commission, but with the Political Agent against him, he cannot even exercise his legistimate rights and privileges. The Government may, in the consciousness of its strength and power, treat the native chiefs just as it pleases, but has it ever stopped to consider how its policy will be regarded by posterity and described in the pages of history? Will the British Government like to be ranked with Nero, Aurangzeb, and Mahmud of

Ghuzni and tyrants of their class?

51. The Sanjivani of the 14th March has the following: -

The Morning Post of the 27th February publishes Nahun. an article attacking the Native Chief of Nahun. The writer advises the Government to teach the Raja of Nahun a sound lesson by deposing him. The head and front of the Raja's offence seems to be that he is not disposed to house and feed European travellers and tourists at his own expense or to allow them to kill game in his forests. Nahun is a picturesque hill station. Its forests abound in game, and its large tanks and lakes abound in fish. But the Raja of Nahun is a pious Vaishnav. To him it is a sin to kill or allow anyone to kill living animals. He does not, therefore, like that European travellers and tourists should kill game or fish in his dominion, and he has more than once asked the Collector of Dehra-Dun to prevent Europeans from undertaking sporting excursions in Nahun. Lately, when the Lieutenant-Governor of the North-Western Provinces went out shikaring in the Nahun forests, the Raja asked His Honour to be kind enough not to kill game in his Kaylagarh garden, as the beasts and birds in that garden are regarded as sacred by the Nahun people. This legitimate prayer of the Raja is construed by the Morning Post as an insult to the Lieutenant Governor, as a kick given to British prestige and as a declaration of independence by this Native Chief.

The fact is that Nahun with its picturesque scenery, its rich natural resources, and its healthy and salubrious climate, is a temptation too strong to resist. It is too much for John Bull to allow such a place to remain in the hands of a Native Chief, who, to his crime of colour, adds orthodox Hindu manners and customs which are obnoxious to Europeans. The Raja studiously keeps aloof from the society of Europeans. He does not shake hands with his guests, the tradition of his court compels Europeans to take off their shoes before entering the royal palace, and it goes against the traditional prestige of the Raja to take off his pugree before saluting a person, however high his position. The Raja, moreover, does not think it a meritorious act to invite Europeans to dinners or to present them with rich gifts. By these and many other acts he has offended European vanity and incurred European displeasure. But the Raja is an upright man of independent spirit. He does not care a brass farthing for the displeasure of the Europeans, so long as he is conscious of doing his duty by his

Sanjivani, Mar. 14th, 1896. people and the Paramount Power. But this independence of the Raja touches European sensibility, and the European community cannot look upon the Nahun

Chief, except with an evil eye. There is another circumstance which has increased European dislike for the Nahun Chief. The Punjab and the North-Western Provinces Governments forced on the Raja one Mr. Rogers as the Manager of his State. The Raja dismissed Mr. Rogers, for his faults after some years' service, and appointed a Bengali in his place. This was like gall and wormwood to the European community. Mr. Rogers libelled his Bengali successor, was prosecuted, but was acquitted by a European Magistrate. Thus emboldened, he trespassed into the Raja's garden and palace, and has consequently been prosecuted by the Raja, under sections 411 to 444 of the Indian Penal Code.

The truth is that a Native Chief is in a much more pitiable condition than even the most insignificant subject of Her Gracious Majesty the Queen-Empress. His very existence depends on the sweet will and pleasure of the European community in India, and Anglo-Indian papers are always ready to raise a hue and cry against a Native Chief who may be unfortunate enough to incur their

52. Referring to the deposition of the Maharana of Jhalwar, observes Lord George Hamilton on the

been deposed.

Hamilton said that so long as he was in office he Jhalwar deposition. would never interfere with the Government of India in the exercise of its just rights. But why could not the Secretary of State say the same thing in the case of the cotton duty legislation? The people of this country have not yet forgotten how the opinion of the Government of India is cast to the winds, and it is compelled to meekly carry out the orders of the Home Government whenever the interests of British merchants are in question.

the Bangavasi of the 14th March, Lord George

53. Maharana Zalim Singh, observes the Bankura Darpan of the 16th March, has been deposed, and will be soon exiled Deposition of Zalim Singh. beposition of Zalim Singh. from his territory. The public, however, do not know what is the head and front of his offence. He was charged with tyranny. and highhandedness. But he was not publicly tried for his alleged offence. How then will people know whether he is guilty or not? The Government should make known to the public the grounds on which Zalim Singh has

V.—Prospects of the crops and condition of the people.

54. A correspondent of the Charu Mihir of the 10th March says that scarcity of food has made its appearance in village Scarcity in a village in the Mymensingh district. Itna, within the jurisdiction of the Badla thana in the Mymensingh district. The aman crop was almost entirely destroyed in the storm which passed over the village in October last. There are nine hundred families and a population of 5,500 in the village, and every one of these families has to buy rice, which has become very dear owing to the difficulty of bringing it from other places. From three to four hundred people do not get their meals regularly, and some among them have to starve from time to time for a day or two. The raiyats are not getting loans even at an interest of one anna or one anna and-a-half per rupee. Under these circumstances, they must be supported throughout the month of Chaitra. In Baisakh they will reap the rabi crop, which, though not likely to be a full one, will probably enable them to live from hand-to-mouth. Bahadur of East Bengal, Raja Suryyakanta Acharyya Bahadur, Hem Babu of Ambaria, and the Dhankura Babus, who are the zamindars of the village, ought to relieve the distresses of their poor raiyats. The attention of the Subdivisional Officer of Kishoreganj is also drawn to the condition of the villagers.

VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

55. The Burdwan Sanjivani of the 10th March has the following: -When Sir Antony MacDonnell was appointed Sir Alexander Mackenzie. Lieutenant-Governor of the North-Western Provinces, the chance of getting a popular and beneficent ruler seemed to us to

BANGAVASI, Mar. 14th, 1896.

BANKURA DARPAN, Mar. 16th, 1896.

CHABU MIEIR, Mar. 10th, 1896.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI. Mar. 10th, 1896.

be lost for ever. Our disappointment was great, and was only equal to our fear of getting in Sir Charles Elliott's successor as terrible a nightmare as he That fear, however, is now dispelled, and within a short time Sir Alexander Mackenzie has by his beneficent rule re-assured the public mind and entitled himself to the gratitude of the people of Bengal. We are now convinced that during his rule the grievances of the people will not go unredressed. and that the officials will not be allowed to ill-treat and tyrannise over them without let or hindrance. The indications that we have already received of his policy have impressed us with the belief that our new Lieutenant-Governor is bent upon redressing the grievances of the people and promoting their welfare without, of course, in any way deviating from the traditional policy of British rule in India. His acts and administrative measures have been received with satisfaction by the people, and great is the out-pouring of their heart in recognition of their ruler's kindness! Where are those Anglo Indian papers now who, during Sir Charles Elliott's rule, abused the people of Bengal, in season and out of season, calling them seditious, disaffected and ungrateful? Perhaps they still pretend to be blind to the manifestation of the people's gratitude and thankfulness. There is nothing that cannot be done by those who, fattening on Indian hospitality, do not hesitate to do injury to the Indian people. But even they will be now obliged to curb their unbridled pens. They will now understand that one need not always resort to falsehood and flattery in order to praise a ruler and his administration, nor tax one's imagination and outrage one's conscience and common sense in order to defend his policy.

SAHACHAR, Mar. 11th, 1896. The Suhachar of the 11th March says that, smarting under the treatment which has been dealt out to India by the selfish and pseudo-philanthropic weavers of Manchester, the inhabitants of the Berars, at a meeting attended by about 5,000 people, have unanimously resolved to eschew Manchester cloth altogether. So, Manchester will be in a nice position if the other provinces of India follow suit. Certainly she deserves to be taught a severe lesson. The people of India should learn to supply their wants with home-made articles, as this will prevent the flow of money from India to the pockets of a few millionaires in England.

SANJIVANI, Mar. 14th, 1896. Boycotting Manchester. foreign piece-goods and take to the use of indigenous cotton goods in their stead. Such a resolution, if piously made by the Indian people, is most likely to encourage the indigenous manufacture of cotton goods and thereby provide a large number of people with the means of livelihood. Foreign cloth may be cheaper than country-made cloth, but the latter is more durable, and its buyer is in the long run a gainer. But even if a little loss is entailed by this change, that loss must be incurred for the sake of the country's welfare. The writer has pledged himself not to use English-made cloth for a year.

Bangavasi, Mar. 14th, 1896. 58. An Anglo-Indian paper, observes the Bangavasi of the 14th March, says that it is downright sedition on the part of the natives to talk of using indigenous articles to the exclusion of foreign goods. In the opinion of this paper, perhaps, the natives are in duty bound to starve, for food gives strength, and may thereby enable them to rise against the Government. Admirable indeed is the sense of duty of such papers as this!

DAINIE-O-SAMACHAR CHANDRIKA, Mar. 15th, 1896. The Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika of the 15th March advises Lady

Mackenzie to use kaviraji medicine for the cure of
the slight fever which she gets every day. Her
Ladyship has only to speak to Mr. Risley to get the advice of a kaviraj like
Bijaya Ratna Sen.

Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika. The Sobhabasar Benevolent Society.

Society at Sobhabasar in Calcutta. The Society should do its philanthropic work quietly, without unnecessary fuss or waste of money. The money which is spent on the celebration of the aniversary ought to be spent in extending the scope of the Society's work.

The Bankura Darpan of the 16th March does not approve of the BANKURA DARPAN Board's action in compelling Dr. Green, Civil Mar. 16th, 1896. Compensation for killing the Surgeon of Bankura, to pay Rs. 750 as compensatame elephant in Bankura. tion for killing the she-elephant. The mad elephant killed some men, and struck terror into the hearts of the people who remained confined in their homes from a fear of the mad animal. At this time Dr. Green came to the rescue of the people and killed the mad animal. If in the excite-

ment of the moment he chanced to kill the tame elephant as well, he ought not to be compelled to pay any compensation. If the Government does not reconsider the matter, the people of Bishnupur should raise money by public subscriptions in order to pay the compensation demanded from Dr. Green.

CHUNDER NATH BOSE,

Bengali Translator.

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE, The 21st March 1896.

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